

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 FEA-01 AGR-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

OMB-01 (ISO) W

----- 038500

R 211610Z MAY 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1544

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MTN GENEVA 3957

ACTION STR

H PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: US/CANADA DISCUSSIONS ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

REF: (A) MTN GENEVA 3322, (B) USEC BRUSSELS 4485

1. WE MET WITH CANADIAN DELEGATION MAY 19 TO INITIATE DISCUSSION ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT. IT WAS LARGELY A ONE-WAY EXCHANGE BECAUSE AMB. GREY SEEMED PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN BEING BRIEFED ON RESULTS OF RECENT US/EC BILATERAL ON THIS SUBJECT AND HE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGED HE WAS NOT SUFFICIENTLY FAMILIAR WITH CURRENT CANADIAN POSITION ON RECENT OECD DEVELOPMENTS.

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2. AMB. WALKER REVIEWED US/EC BILATERAL IN

SOME DETAIL DRAWING ON REFTELS. GREY RATHER HESITANTLY EXPRESSED VIEW THAT HE BELIEVED US AND CANADIAN VIEWS WERE NOT DISSIMILAR ON QUESTION OF TRANSPARENCY AND COVERAGE BUT BOTH SIDES AGREED THERE WAS NEED TO GO INTO THIS IN MORE DETAIL AT A LATER DATE. GREY SUGGESTED OUR MTN DELEGATIONS ATTEMPT TO MEET BEFORE THE SUMMER BREAK TO GO OVER DRAFT OECD CODE ON A PARAGRAPH BY PARAGRAPH BASIS TO TRY TO CLARIFY EXACTLY WHERE WE STAND ON THESE ISSUES.

3. ONLY OTHER NOTEWORTHY POINTS:

(A) GREY HAD SOME DOUBTS ABOUT WISDOM OF WORK PROCEEDING SIMULTANEOUSLY IN BOTH PARIS AND GENEVA AND EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR LOCUS HERE;

(B) GREY ANTICIPATES MAJOR DIFFICULTIES IN REACHING A MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT ON THIS SUBJECT PARTICULARLY WITH JAPAN AND, SHOULD THIS PROVE TO BE THE CASE, HE HOPED US WOULD NOT PREMATURELY ABANDON POSSIBILITY OF SOME BILATERAL UNDERSTANDING WITH CANADA ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT PROBLEMS.

4. MEETING CLOSED WITH MUTUAL AGREEMENT THAT CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN OUR DELS ON THIS SUBJECT NOW OPEN AND THAT WE SHOULD ATTEMPT TO COORDINATE POSITIONS AS NEGOTIATIONS PROGRESS. CULBERT

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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